

## ELECTION LAW PLATFORM

**Of the State Democratic Convention---Would Go No Further Than to Urge This Law Be Strengthened So as to Prevent Republican Frauds.**

"We recommend that the election law of 1898, which was enacted to prevent the repetition of Republican frauds in certain districts of this State, and which was a marked improvement upon the then existing law, but which has not proved sufficient for that purpose (preventing Republican frauds), be amended so as to secure this end so thoroughly that the most hypercritical can find no excuse for charging fraud or unfairness to our party in the conduct of any election."

### The Consent of the Governed.

(W. C. P. Breckinridge in Lexington Herald.)

We are a profound believer in the principles of human freedom and human government as contained in the few immortal sentences of Mr. Jefferson and adopted by the Continental Congress as part of the Declaration of Independence, and we hold these sentences to be the most pregnant and precious of all uninspired utterances. That all men were created free, and, therefore, equal, that governments are instituted among men to protect them in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, that the only warrant of powers to be exercised by a government is the consent of the governed, are fundamental principles of human philosophy, and upon them alone can be erected a free government, and through them alone can liberty be maintained. When these principles are to be practically applied at any given period in the world's history, among a particular people, then the environments, the peculiar training, capacity, customs, traditions, education, strength and resources of the people are to be taken into consideration in determining what is the wisest and most practical form in which the government ought to be framed, what are the powers which should be granted to the magistrates, what the magistracy ought to be and the nature and extent of the duties and functions imposed upon them. These principles do not require that the government shall be a republic, for free men may institute as the best government for them a constitutional monarchy, a limited aristocracy, or a pure democracy; nor do these principles require that every person in the nation shall express his consent by means of suffrage. In America we have held to this principle as fundamental, but we have not hesitated to apply the rules of common sense and the logic of events to the demands of practical statesmanship. The thirteen colonies formed the Articles of Confederation; certain States deeded the Northwest Territory to the United States, and from that time to this there is scarcely any form of government that was not kingly which has not been put into practical operation under the constitution of the United States. In the Presidency of Mr. Jefferson, when his Secretary of State was James Madison, the father of the constitution, military possession was taken of the Louisiana Territory, and Congress enacted territorial laws, established a territorial government, and the President sent the governor and other officers to that territory. Under the Presidency of James Monroe, who had been an officer of the Revolutionary War, Governor of Virginia, Secretary of State under Madison, and the minister through whom the purchase of the Louisiana Territory was accomplished, we acquired Florida, and he sent General Andrew Jackson to govern Florida with a firm and perhaps stern hand. The act of Congress which organized the Northwest Territory was adopted without the slightest reference to the suffrage or wishes of the inhabitants of that empire, and it has been done as to all the territories of the United States. Indeed, the President, as commander-in-chief, governed certain of the territory acquired under the treaty with Mexico, and since the war the territorial government of Utah was repealed and Utah governed by a commission, and before the war President Buchanan sent Albert Sidney Johnston to put down a rebellion in Utah without the slightest regard to the consent of the governed. And since the purchase of Alaska there has been no real home rule or real self-government in that enormous territory.

When the eleven States of the South seceded and set up a separate government, and declared independence on this very plea, as well as on the claim of the constitutional right to secede, the United States scarcely listened to that plea, and after the greatest war of modern times, conquered those eleven States, subverted their domestic institutions, and organized governments distinctly hostile to the consent of the majority and forced those governments upon the conquered. Today Mr. Bryan is running upon a platform thanking the soldiers who conquered the South and pledging to the survivors liberal pensions for this conquest. Today in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, millions of native-born Americans, who, by the constitutional amendments, were made citizens and given the right of suffrage, are disfranchised, so that they shall not have any voice in the government of their States, and must submit to being governed without their consent. Mr. Bryan would not dare to denounce the constitutional amendments and statutory enactments under which the disfranchisement of these millions of native-born Americans has been accomplished. We are not criticising any one of these historic acts to which we have alluded. We are simply stating them as illustrating the practical construction by the successive generations of Americans and American statesmen of the phrase "consent of the governed."

Under the constitution of the United States today New Mexico and Arizona have a territorial form of government, but have been constituent parts of the United States for more than half a century. Congress has amended these territorial statutes frequently and without the consent of the inhabitants of those territories, and reserves the power to set aside any act passed by the territorial legislatures. The Governor, judges and executive officers of those territories appointed by the President.

Oklahoma belonged to the Indians. Without their consent it was nominally purchased from them and a territorial government formed, which government exists today, and it is by mere legal fiction that it may be said of that government that it is founded on the consent of the governed. Those who give efficient consent to what is done for Oklahoma live in Massachusetts, Oregon, Florida, California and intervening States.

Undoubtedly the policy to be adopted and vigorously and firmly pursued as to the Philippine Islands must be based on the recognition of the freedom of their citizens and the establishment of free institutions. We all agree that unless those islands can be made free our experiment with them will be a failure, and if it be true that man is capable of self-government in the sense that every race can be, by proper training and evolution, developed into a capacity

for self-government; if it be true, that our institutions are based upon the fundamental nature of man then it must follow that under our institutions and animated by the spirit of our government the Filipinos will gradually become fit for the exercise of the right of government. Mr. Bryan does not draw the very broad distinction between the possession of a right and the capacity to exercise that right. Every child born in America has a right to be free, but until he is 21 he has no legal capacity to exercise that particular right of a freeman which we call suffrage.

The Filipinos undoubtedly are entitled to have a government, which shall be practically and substantially a free government, suited to their necessities, fitted for their nature. But it does not by any means follow that the government established today that fits their present condition must be molded according to the present customs and controlled by their conception of what is liberty regulated by law. Our duty is to establish a stable government, which will secure order, and yet give to the inhabitants an increasing share in that government and protect them in their liberties. What that government shall be, its precise form, the number of magistrates the department into which it shall be divided and the mode in which its powers shall be distributed are questions to be decided by the wisest statesmanship. And this is precisely what we are doing. Mr. Bryan's declarations will prolong the era of violence; it will add to the expense, and, therefore, to the burdens upon tax payers; it will animate the forces of Aguinaldo to continued hostilities, resulting in the death and wounding of more American soldiers but it will not stop the progress of that transformation which has begun in those islands—a transformation by one Bible, by free church, free schools, impartial courts, speedy and just administration of the law and firm rule, by which the lawless are restrained and the frugal and laboring are protected.



Bryan: "Here! Where are you fellows going?"  
They: "No use in hanging around a dead mule."—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

### OUR NEW DEPOT.

Breaking Ground For New Building to be Completed by November 30.

#### A MODERN, COMPLETE BUILDING

Workmen are breaking ground here for our new passenger depot, the contract for which has been let and carries with it a guarantee that the building will be completed and ready for occupancy by November 30, 1900.

In this issue are published ordinances passed by the Earlington city council at its regular August meeting, relative to the transfer for the new building. Some delay had been occasioned in arranging the details of this transfer and the erection of the new depot thus postponed, but as soon as the title to the lots was perfected the contract was closed and the building ordered at once.

This will be a handsome, roomy and complete passenger station about which THE BEE will give its readers more definite and detailed information in a later issue. It is going to be the handsomest depot between Nashville and Evansville—not including Nashville.

The new structure will occupy the ground that has been devoted to the little railroad park which has been called Dickson park in memory of the previous superintendent, B. F. Dickson. The people of Earlington and the railroad men will hold in pleasant remembrance. Supt. W. S. Martin, under whose efforts and administration our new depot was planned and authorized, and

who leaves to take position September 1, as General Superintendent of the Denver & Rio Grande at Denver, Colorado.

#### IN KEEPING WITH THE TIMES.

Cleb Powers' Comments on the Situation in a Letter.

In a letter to a prominent Republican of this city, the Hon. Caleb Powers scores Judge Cantrill's court at Georgetown, and says the rashness and recklessness of those in the saddle are in keeping with the times. He says he will be unflinching through it all, fully confident that Goebelism, Campbellism and Trimbleism will fall before the righteous wrath of an outraged people.

The letter is as follows:

"Georgetown, Aug. 21, 1900.—Dear Friend: Yes, I have not only been wronged, but have been outraged. Outraged by what has been organized and set apart as a protection from wrong—the court of justice of our State—"To be robbed of one's liberty by the very instrument set apart to guard this liberty is a monstrous performance. Yet all these things are in keeping with the harshness of the times, the rashness of the reckless men in the saddle."

"They will be overthrown. Trimbleism, Goebelism and Campbellism cannot live long in this land."

"I will be unflinching through it all. Upon this my friends can rely."

"I appreciate your words of encouragement. You have been my friend and I am yours, and I trust I will be able to show it some time in a material way. I am very truly yours,"

"CALEB POWERS."

## GOEBEL ON THE GOEBEL LAW.

(From His Harrodsburg Speech.)

"I want to say to you, in my humble judgment, notwithstanding the declarations of John Young Brown upon this subject, at this late day, that the Democratic representatives in your last General Assembly would have been untrue to themselves, untrue to their constituents, and unworthy to be trusted with power, if they had not taken this matter into their hands and dealt with it just as they did."

"I do not want any mistake about this matter. I am not entitled to the vote of a single man who does not approve this law."

"If ever I get to be governor of this commonwealth, and any Legislature undertakes to repeal this law, you may depend on it, I will veto it certainly."

### HON. CHARLES DENBY

Opposed to Bryan—Life Long Indiana Democrat Says Bryan Is the Father of Imperialists.

#### HE WILL SUPPORT M'KINLEY.

CHICAGO, Aug. 27.—The Hon. Charles Denby, of Indiana, ex-United States Minister to China, and member of the first commission to the Philippines—a life-long Democrat—has written a letter urging the re-election of President McKinley. It is entitled "Bryan's Attitude Toward the Philippines," and is made public by the Republican National Committee.

Mr. Denby has long been one of the most influential leaders in the Democratic party in Indiana, and is known as one of the ablest men in the nation.

In his letter Mr. Denby calls William Jennings Bryan the father of imperialism, saying:

"Mr. Bryan's own explanation is as follows:

"I believe that we are now in a better position to wage a successful contest against imperialism than we would have been had the treaty been rejected."

"Here then we have the real reason for this strange parody of Jekyll and Hyde. He wanted to create the bogey of 'imperialism' in order that he might fight and overcome the monster. If Mr. Bryan had opposed the ratification of the treaty the Filipinos would have gone their way, either into the arms of Spain or of Germany, or into discordant, warring and petty States. At all events, we would have been done with them. This would not have suited at all, because Mr. Bryan wanted to wage 'a successful contest against imperialism.' And so imperialism was born, and its actual father was William J. Bryan. He is now endeavoring to destroy his own child. Let it be remembered that this extraordinary dread of 'imperialistic rule' comes from a gentleman who has accepted the nomination of the fusion Populists or People's Party. The Populist platform demands that 'the country should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.' Is not that imperialism?"

In conclusion, Mr. Denby says:

"Disguise it as you may, the real question before the people is whether the armies of the United States should be withdrawn at once, now and forever, and the islands turned over to the Tagalos. Mr. Bryan would, as Commander-in-Chief, have the power to recall the armies, and if he did he would let loose the horrors of a terrible revolution."

"We should not grant the Philippines immediate independence, because we have assumed by the treaty the obligations to the world which we must comply with. We have also assumed obligations to the friendly Filipinos, and we should not abandon them to a dreadful fate. We have promised those people a stable government, and we ought to give it to them. We have property interests in the islands which should be protected. It is desirable for us to have a foothold in the East, so as to foster and increase our commerce. We believe that association with us will elevate the Filipino and improve his condition."

"I am not defending the Republican party in this article, but

I am defending William McKinley. He has been subjected to more abuse than any President ever was, and he has deserved it as little as any one ever did. In the most difficult period of our history he has proved himself equal to all the demands upon him. He has acted with an eye single to the good of the country. The war with Spain was not of the President's seeking, but he met the issue with exalted courage. In diplomacy, he displayed qualities of the highest order, and in military affairs he was remarkably successful. He eminently deserves re-election."

#### RULING UNJUST.

Powers' Attorneys Complain of Short Time For Exceptions.

Georgetown, Ky., Aug. 24.—In the aftermath of the Powers trial an interesting story or so is still afloat, although the visiting lawyers, newspaper men and witnesses are gone with one or two exceptions. Judge Cantrill had the room to himself when he convened court at 9 a. m. Only a lonely "beat" was in sight. This performance was repeated every morning until the attorneys return with their bill of exceptions. Powers' counsel left here for Louisville this morning complaining bitterly of the ruling of the court, which gave them only ten working days to prepare their bill of exceptions, when they asked until the middle of October to conclude the task, which will be tremendous. Exclusive of the arguments there are 3,750 typewritten pages of record to be read. Hence it would take a man ten days to merely read the record, working ten hours steady a day and reading 87 pages an hour. The impossibility of the undertaking in the time allotted is manifest, and it is small wonder that Powers' lawyers complain of the apparent injustice of the ruling. However, they say it was in keeping with the previous decisions from the bench during the trial.

Jailer James Reed says politics is behind the attack made on him as an officer. He declares that there was no possible danger of a rescue of Powers. But because he had shown some kindness to the convicted man the prisoner is ordered off to Louisville. Powers had made hundreds of friends here who regret that he should have been removed. Powers' himself said that he believed his growing popularity was the chief reason for his removal.

The posters entitled "Uncle Sam's Balance Sheet" and "That Terrible Eclipse," published by The American Protective Tariff League, are perhaps the most striking illustrations of the difference in conditions between 1896 and 1900, which have been issued thus far in the campaign. These posters can be seen in the rooms of any local Republican Committee, or will be sent to any address for eight cents. Ask for Posters "G" and "H." Address, American Protective Tariff League, 135 West 23rd Street, New York.